

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Paul J. Skwierawaki on 11/5/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 11-18 are cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-10, 19-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The cited prior arts do not teach or suggest a map generation from an image (i.e. referred to a single optical 2D image, it means an image taken from a satellite, see spec. 0002), a polygon extraction unit analyze the image (or a single optical 2D image) to extract one pixel from pixels within a building region based on a result of discriminating a color of the pixels around the building region to compare whether the pixels are within a color variance of a predetermined discrimination threshold, then to extract plural polygon lines of the extracted building region, and a structural analysis with integration unit analyze the polygon lines by the polygon extraction unit using the image (or the single optical 2D image) to detect a boundary of the building region and lines inside the building region, and compare a shape of detected lines with a predetermined

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shape pattern of cross lines, where the structural analysis and integration unit estimates the building region and terminates a process for integrating the building structure in a case where there exist no lines corresponding to any of the integration pattern, and the polygon extraction unit generates a vector of a polygon line of the extracted building region which was estimated by the structural analysis and integration unit, as recited in independent claim 1.

The independent claim 19 is allowed with the same reasons as set forth in claim 1, above.

The dependent claims 2-10, and 20 are allowed with the same reasons as set forth in claim 1, above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAVID A. AMINI whose telephone number is (571)272-7654.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on 571-272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kee M Tung/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2628

Javid A Amini
Examiner
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